

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

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Ref: 8WP-SUI

Honorable Harold Frazier, Chairman Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe P.O. Box 590 Eagle Butte, South Dakota 57625-0590

Re: Dewey-Burdock Cultural Survey and Tribal Consultation

## Dear Chairman Frazier:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 (EPA) Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program is contacting you to encourage you to designate representatives to attend the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) meeting/conference call/web conference regarding the cultural survey of the proposed Dewey-Burdock in-situ recovery (ISR) site in the southern Black Hills near Edgemont, South Dakota. The location of the Dewey-Burdock site is shown in the enclosed Figure 1. The NRC is holding a meeting/conference call/web conference the week of May 28, 2018, to discuss and establish the survey methodology and the areas to be surveyed.

The EPA will also be attending the *meeting/conference call/ web conference* and we look forward to hearing input from the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe ideas regarding the cultural survey area and methodology. The EPA considers this cultural survey to be an important component for consultation under the EPA's Tribal Consultation Policy and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation.

The EPA is also eager to schedule an information session, via web conference or a meeting in Eagle Butte, and government-to-government consultation meetings with you and representatives of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe at your earliest convenience. UIC staff held an information session web conference about the Dewey-Burdock UIC draft permits with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Environmental Director on October 16, 2017. At that time, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and the Environmental Director requested that the EPA send an annotated version of the slide presentation to you and schedule an information session with you and Nicole Ducheneaux, your designated contact for Tribal Consultation, per the letter you sent to the EPA dated June 19, 2017.

Confidentiality: We understand that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe may raise issues in consultation that should be kept confidential and nonpublic. During the course of our consultation process, if there is information that you would like to provide, but that you believe should remain confidential, please contact us by phone, and we will explore options for keeping the information confidential in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.11(c). As we move forward with the consultation process, please be aware that any information you provide to the EPA in writing will become a part of the public record unless other arrangements are made to maintain confidentiality.

**Background Information on the Dewey-Burdock Site:** For information about the proposed Dewey-Burdock site, please see the enclosed page entitled *Background Information on the Proposed Dewey-Burdock Uranium In-Situ Recovery Site* and enclosed Figures 1 through 5.

Sincerely,

Darcy O'Connor Assistant Regional Administrator Office of Water Protection

## Enclosures (6)

cc: Mr. Steven Vance, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. Dave Nelson, Environmental Director

Ms. Nicole Ducheneaux, Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP

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